Survey No. T-816

## Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

DOE \_\_yes \_\_no

Magi No.

1. Nam	1 <b>e</b> (indicate pr	eferred name)			
historic					
and/or common	Lewis Cummings	House			
2. Loca	ation				
street & number	r Black Walnut	Point Road	-	not for publication	
city, town Til	lghman	vicinity of	congressional district	Fifth	
state MD		county	Talbot		
3. Clas	sification				
Category  districtX building(s) structure site object	Ownership public X private both Public Acquisition in process being considered not applicable	Status  occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Useagriculturecommercialeducationalentertainmentgovernmentindustrialmilitary	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:	
4. Own	er of Prope	rty (give names a	nd mailing addresse	s of <u>all</u> owners)	
name Will:	iam S. Wilson, J	r.			
street & number			telephone n	o.: <sup>301-592-7629</sup>	
city, town Phoenix		state	te and zip code MD 21131		
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Description	on		
courthouse, regi	istry of deeds, etc. Talb	ot County Clerk	ofs@ourt	liber 601	
street & number	Talbot County C	Courthouse		folio 535	
city, town Eas				<b>4</b> D	
6. Rep	resentation	in Existing	Historical Surv	reys	
title		,			
date			federal stat	te county local	
pository for su	urvey records				
city, town		1	state		
	-				

## 7. Description

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Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Lewis Cummings house is located at the end of an oyster shell road off of the east side of Black Walnut Point Road on Tilghman Island. Talbot County, Maryland. The house faces west with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis.

The Cummings house is one of the earliest structures on Tilghman Island, dating to about 1856. The exterior of this two-story frame house is clad in cedar shake shingles. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and the house is supported by a low brick pier foundation.

The west imain facade of the house has three bays with a central door flanked by six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds. The door is sheltered by a gable roof portico supported by plain posts. The second story is lit by three six-over-six sash windows. Two one-story, gable roof additions telescope to the north from the main house.

The south elevation is blind with an interior brick chimney which pierces the roof of this gable end.

The east elevation has a full width screen porch on the first story. The first floor of the house is lit by two six-over-six sash windows and a central door. The second story is lit by three six-over-six sash windows. The east elevation of both the first and second additions has an entrance doors.

The north elevation of the main house is a blind gable end with an interior brick chimney which pierces the roof. A one-story, one room gable end addition telescopes out from the main body of the house and is lit by a three-over-three sash window on the west side, and a door on the east side. A second addition, built by the current owners, is a one-story, gable roofed structure which was built onto the north end of the first addition. Both additions are covered in cedar shake shingles and roofed with red, corrugated tin

The interior of the house has been changed little over the years despite the additions and two rebuilt fireplaces. The exposed ceiling beams of the first floor room on the south end are particularly interesting. Measured indentations in these beams, which have nothing to do with their current use, suggest that they were salvaged from an earlier structure.

1400 1500 1600 1700	–1599 agriculture –1699X architecture –1799 art –1899 commerce	community planning	law literature military music t philosophy	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific	dates	Builder/Architect		
check:	Applicable Criteria:A and/or Applicable Exception:A		EFG	
	Level of Significance:	_nationalstate	X local	
Prepare	both a summary paragraph o	of significance and	a general statement o	of history and

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8. Significance

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Larrimore Cummings purchased this five acre property, along with an additional 95 acres, from James M. Seth in 1846. Following his death in 1852, part of the Cummings estate was acquired by John V. Lowe. Lewis Cummings, Larrimore s son, bought this five acre plot from Lowe in 1856 and made it his home until 1894. It is unclear whether a house existed on this five acre plot when Lewis purchased it in 1856 although one of his children claims to have been born there in 1853. A house is clearly represented on this site in the 1858 map of Talbot County.

According to local lore, a house had existed on this site since the War of 1812. Sailing vessels used to come ashore on the property and take fresh water from the artesian well which flowed there. A January 6, 1947 Star Democrat article entitled. Mrs. L.A.Fluhart of Tilghman Dies at 93, concerns Lewis Cummings daughter and her memories of the house and its history. Mrs. Fluhart claimed she was born in the Cummings house on May 10, 1853 and lived there until 1873 when she married Lewis Fluhart. She remembered a slave settlement near their home and Union troops camping on the Cummings property during the Civil War.

The Cummings house remains isolated from neighboring buildings, and sits less than ten feet from the edge of Black Walnut, or Barney's, Cove. Its situation is typical of the few homes that were scattered over Tilghman's Island in the maps of the 1840s and 1850s.

10. (	Geographical D	ata			
Acreage of nominated property  Quadrangle name  UTM References do NOT complete UTM references			Quadrangle scale		
A [	Easting Northing	B Zor	Easting	Northing	
C   E   G		P F H H			
Verbal boo	ındary description and justific	ation			
List all sta state	tes and counties for propertie		county boundaries	code	
state	cod	e county		code	
11. F	orm Prepared I	Ву			
name/title	Elizabeth Hughes, as	chitectural his	storian		
organization	Talbot County Planni	ing Office	date 8/90		
street & num	ober Talbot County Cour	thouse	telephone 822-203	30	
city or town	Easton		state MD		

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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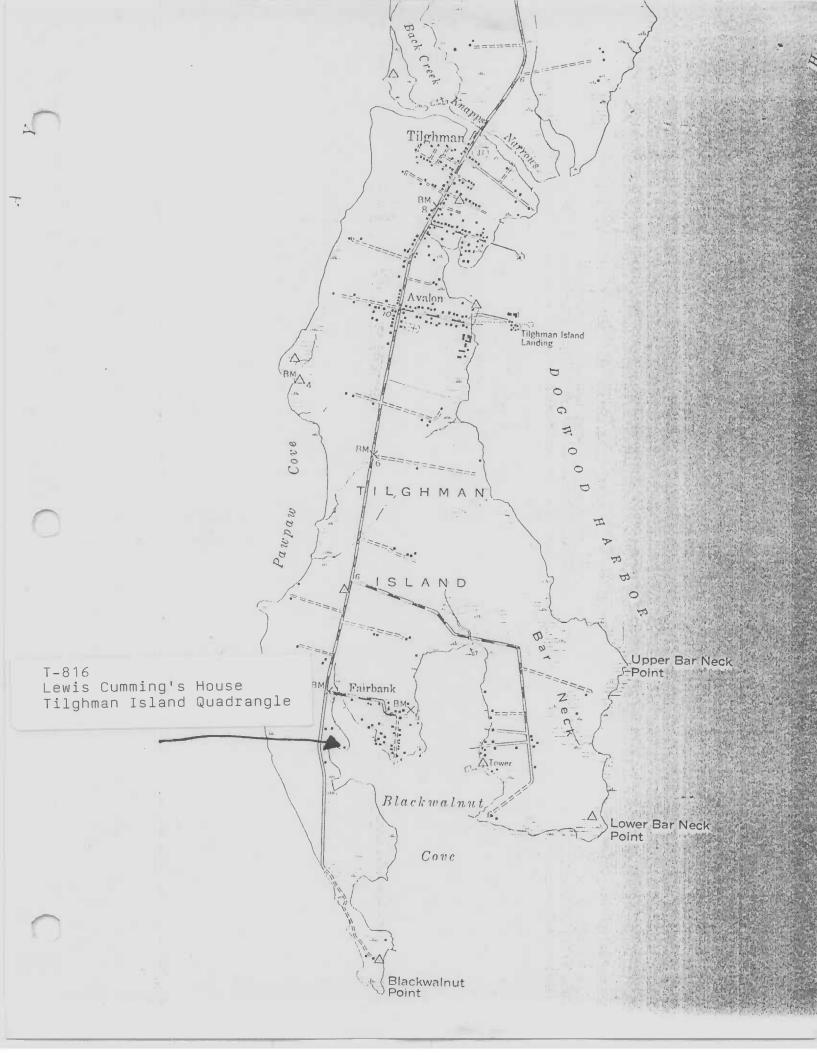
Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438



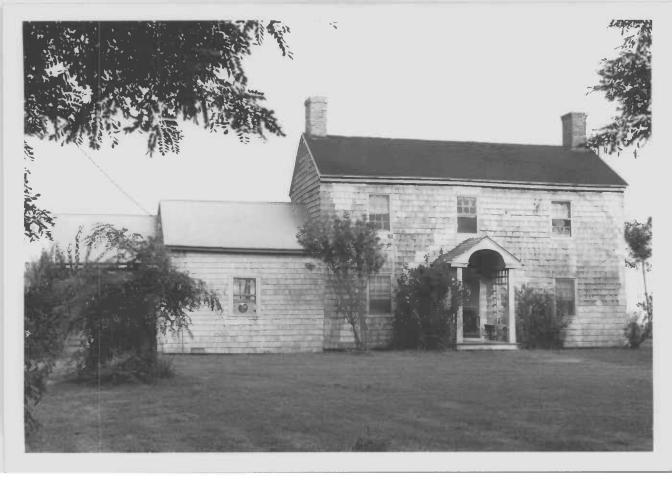


THE CHAMPES HOUSE TOWN JUNE.

THE HAMP I SLAVEL, TALBOT COUNTY ALL.

EASTERN ELLUATIONS

EMDABETH HUGHES, PHOTOLITYPHER.



TILGAMANI TSLAND, TALEST COUNTY ! I'D.

WESTERN ENVATION.

ELIZABETH HUGHES, PHOTOLOGIC